01.04.04. This was based on a review of the funds available and prioritization of assistance to various Sub-Sectors giving importance to perishables and the need to raise farmers' incomes by reducing wastage.

Policy for betterment of FPIs and Agri-business

2. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Empowered Committee of Ministers had approved the policy for the betterment of food processing industries and Agri-business;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas in which the intending enterpreneurs are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (c) The Government have constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on Integrated Strategy for promotion of Agri-business—vision, strategy & action plan for the food processing sector. The GoM will consider various action plans, such as, tax regime, infrastructure status to the investments in food processing industries, private and FDI in infrastructure, availability of processable raw materials, capacity building of small and unorganized sector, institutional framework, Integrated Food Law with a single apex regulator, etc. with a view to promote investments in the Sector. The GoM has not yet finalized its recommendations.

Setting-up of food parks in Uttaranchal

†3. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttaranchal has submitted any proposal to his Ministry with regard to setting-up of food parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is considering any proposal to increase the amount of Central subsidy to be provided for construction of food parks; and

(d) if so, the amount proposed to be fixed for the same?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up of food park by M/s Barnawa Agro Industries Limited, Roorkee, Hardwar at Village Prahladpur, Paragana—Goverdhanpur, Tehsil Laksar, District Hardwar in Uttaranchal has been received through State Nodal Agency. The proposal has been scrutinized and required supporting information has been called for.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its Plan Scheme provides financial assistance to various implementing agencies for creation of common facilities such as cold storage, food testing and analysis laboratory, effluent treatment plant, common processing facilities, power, water supply etc. in food parks, upto 25% of the project cost in General Areas and 33.33% in Difficult Areas, subject to a maximum of Rs. 4.00 crores. Proposal for restructuring of the Infrastructure Scheme including provision for higher assistance for food parks is being developed in consultation with Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance. The Ministry is not in a position to say with certainty whether in what form the proposal for restructuring of the Food Park Scheme would be approved.

Central status to Utkal University

4. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to grant Central status to the Utkal University in Orissa;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) the time-frame within which this would be done to meet the aspirations of the people of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.